(b) It is estimated that 20,000 gallons daily would be the minimum quantity required for supplying the people in Vallanghi and Nemmara townships.

(c) It was on the recommendation of the Chief Engineer that the operations were taken up.

(d) The Government consider that the chances of getting good water in Cochin by boring are very slender. Such operations conducted in British Cochin were not successful.

Steps to stop lotteries.

263. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In view of the fact that the case referred to in answer to question 170 (b) of the February session having been disposed by the Chief Court, pronounsing such *kuries* as lotteries, will the Government, in accordance with their policy, be now pleased to take any action to arrest the stoppage of such lotteries pronounced to be illegal, making it incumbent on the starters to repay the dues of the members?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Governn.ent do not propose to take any action in respect of *kuries* started before the Chief Court decision, as the point of law involved was not a very clear one, the point being set at rest only recently by the Full enchruling.

As regards future *kuries*, the Commissioner of Police is taking necessary action.

Circulars of the Police Commissioner regarding lotteries.

264. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the circular and notification regarding State lotteries, published by the Commissioner of Police in Part I, Page 264 of Gazette No. 36, dated 29th May;

(b) whether they are not aware of the fact that the lottery referred to therein is sanctioned by another State;

(c) that in view of the fact that our Government also sanctioned not long ago two lotteries, one for the Keraliya Ayurveda Samajam and another for the St. Thomas' College, and the tickets thereof were sold both in British India and other Native States without the lotteries being sanctioned by the Government of India, do they not consider that the said notification and circular were not of a reciprocal nature;

(d) whether the Police Commissioner consulted the Government Advocate and Law Officer before publishing the above, and whether, if found necessary, cannot action be taken

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against the promoters' according to *the Penal Code* even without the above circulars, etc.?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The question is not intelligible.

(d) The Government Advocate was not consulted. Action can be taken even without the circular.

The registration of *kuri* documents.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the registration of a *kuri* document fees are received separately on the amount paid down and on the same amount or bigger amount that the executor has to repay in a series of instalments;

(b) the date from which such double fees used to be levied and the Regulation authorising such levy;

(c) whether they do not consider it a severe hardship on poor persons who are obliged to receive smaller amounts from Church *kuries*, etc., while a much less amount alone has to be expended on ordinary mortgages for receipt of much bigger amounts?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) From Dhanu 1099, under the provision in Note 2 to Article 1 of the table of fees of *the Registration Manual.*

(c) No special hardship is likely to be caused here. This is also the practice in British India.

Capital punishment in the State.

266. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state the number of cases in which capital punishment has been awarded in the State in the course of the last 10 years?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Nil.

The treatment of political prisoners.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any rule, order or provision to the effect that better treatment than what is given to ordinary prisoners should be given to political prisoners;

(b) whether Messrs. Kuroor Neelakandan Nambudiripad and Sebastian were not treated as ordinary prisoners, while they were in gaol; and if they were not so treated, in what all ways they were specially treated?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) The rules on the subject are contained in Chapter XLI of the Jail Rules.

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